



# ALCESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL RECORD.

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ALCESTER,  
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# ALCESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL RECORD.

No. 15.

July 13th.

1923.

EDITOR—Mr. Druller. SUB-EDITOR—Miss Dobson.  
COMMITTEE—B. Clarke, M. Sherwood, E. Wilesmith, Lester, Mander.

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## EDITORIAL.

Once again, after an interval of a year, our School Magazine is appearing. We hope that in the future a way will be found to bring it out every term. Unfortunately during the past three years, each issue has resulted in a considerable loss, owing to the heavy expenses of printing and the small circulation of the Magazine. It is obvious to everyone that we could not carry on under these conditions.

Before issuing the present number, which is a purely tentative one, we have made a vigorous appeal to all present scholars for greater support, and have received a response which is a little more satisfactory than has been the case in the past. However we do feel that this little Magazine will not be in a secure position until every boy and girl undertakes to support it.

We have appealed also to a number of Old Scholars to give us a helping hand by taking a copy

of their School Magazine. They have responded in a most gratifying way by promising us their support in almost every case; and we should like, in expressing the School's best thanks to them, to let them know that, but for their help, this number of the Magazine could not have made its appearance.

In the twelve months' interval since our last issue, there has been an accumulation of reports, which have had to be found a place here, although they have excluded a number of articles that we wished to put in. This, however, should not occur in future, and space will be at our disposal for the inclusion of several new features. It will be noticed that we have devoted an entire page to articles of interest to the Lower School, and we propose to reserve this space for them in every issue.

We should be pleased if Old Scholars would supply us with "news" of themselves or other Old Scholars, that we may record it in its proper place. They may be assured that any item of interest will be given a place in the following number.

## HEADMASTER'S LETTER.

DEAR READERS,

The Editor has asked me to write for the Magazine a Headmaster's letter, and although most of you know me so well and hear me so often that there is some risk of your knowing beforehand what I may have to say, yet I feel that I must take that risk and support the Magazine.

First of all I am very pleased to hear from Mr. Druller that there has been such a good response to his efforts to increase the number of subscribers. Such a school as this should have a magazine, and it should be well supported. I hope that from now onwards we shall be able to produce one each term.

Although the summer so far has been strangely dull and cold, yet it has been mainly fine, and our School games have been very little interrupted. I must congratulate the Girls on the steady improvement they continue to make in tennis. The play in the final for the gold medal, and in some of the earlier rounds showed a great advance on former years, much more attention being given to placing than used to be the case.

I have been very glad to notice the keenness of the boys throughout the School on cricket. There is much promise amongst our juniors, which should result in our having a good team to represent the School for many a year to come.

The Boys XI. have on the whole acquitted themselves well, but I think they might have done even better, had more attention been given at the nets to learning certain important strokes properly rather than to mere 'slogging.'

With much regret I record the fact that Miss Dobson will be leaving at the end of this term, after having spent five years with us. We wish her every success in her new sphere of work at Jarrow, and hope she will carry with her none but pleasant memories of her life at Alcester.

Her place will be taken next term by Miss A. B. Brown, B.A. (London) from University College, Nottingham. Our hockey enthusiasts will be glad to know that Miss Brown is a great hockey player, having represented her College, the United Midland Universities, and Nottinghamshire at that game.

The outstanding event of this term is without doubt the winning of the Edgar Allen Scholarship by E. H. Mander. It was a great achievement for himself and for the School, and came as the well-

earned reward of perseverance and hard work. During his time here Mander has taken a prominent part both in work and play, and I feel sure he can be relied upon to maintain the honour of our School when he enters upon his work at Sheffield.

We shall be sorry to lose Betty Clarke, our head girl, and the other members of the VIth Form, who leave this term. They have now all but finished a full School Course, and are ready for the next stage. I do not think they will forget their School or fail to do it credit wherever they may be.

Once again I would remind those who will be returning after the holidays, that the School's reputation is in their hands to make or mar. We want all who know us to feel that where our colours are seen, there good manners, true courtesy, and real worth will be found.

YOUR HEADMASTER.

#### ON THE TRIALS AND ANXIETIES OF SPORTS COOKERY.

Now, is everything ready? With a critical eye I scan the table. Yes; flour, sugar, margarine and eggs, not to mention such trivial items as baking powder and ground rice are in their place. The scales stand calmly by my elbow ready to assist, and the pastry board shines invitingly at the flour bag. Now I can really begin! Carefully I weigh out the ingredients and beat the eggs, stir the flour, and cream the sugar and margarine, for am I not going to make a light, delectable prize-winning cocoa-nut cake? Already I can see the cake proudly rising above its fellows—but ah! Have I put in the baking powder? Oh! have I? Frantically I toss in a big teaspoonful to the yellow mixture. How good it looks! I give it a final whack with a fork, and pour it into the waiting cake tin. Oh! good gracious! It is not greased. But the mixture is now settling happily into its new home, and defies my attempts to coax it out. Ah, well! I place the tin in the oven, and leave it to its fate. Now I descend to the cellar to see my cold sweet. Softly I creep up to it and gaze with awe at the pink, yellowish substance. I touch it tenderly with my little finger, only to find that it has not yet attempted to solidify! With an exclamation of rage I ascend to the scene of action and plunge into the intricate mysteries of sweet making. As I pat my peppermint creams into shape, and stir my cocoa-nut ice, I forgive the cold sweet its

laziness and gaze from time to time at the oven which contains my precious cake. Cautiously I open the door and peer in, grasping in my hand a hat-pin, with which I stab the cake to find out how damp it is in the centre. As a quantity of yellow, gluey substance clings to my weapon I firmly close the oven door again; but, behold, the cake, yellow with indignation, rises majestically in its tin, and alas! in the heat of the moment, severely cracks its smooth and shining face. I drag it forth in disgrace and put it to cool, deciding that it looks at least a little cleaner and more satisfying than my sweets.

At length everything is concluded except the washing up. Mopping my heated brow with a floury handkerchief, I call my sister in to see my cracked master-piece — my cocoa-nut cake. "Hum! It looks all right," she remarks; "but what is that in the bag?" I look. I gasp. I yell with wild anguish! There, in that wretched bag, grinning smugly at my beautiful cocoa-nut cake, THERE was the cocoa-nut! Such, indeed, is one of the experiences of a would-be cook.

E. W.

#### NOTES AND NEWS.

We offer our hearty congratulations to E. H. Mander upon the occasion of his success in winning the Edgar Allen Scholarship offered by Sheffield University, and in addition a County Major Scholarship awarded by the Warwickshire Education Committee.

The annual Speech Day gathering took place on Thursday, November 30th, 1922, when a record attendance of parents and friends filled the School hall and overflowed into the corridor. The certificates gained at the examinations held in the Summer term were presented by Mr. John Humphreys, F.S.A., who delivered an interesting address.

Hearty congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Walker on the birth of a son and heir during the Easter Holidays.

We are pleased to learn that I. M. Lloyd has been awarded a candidate scholarship by the Warwickshire Education Committee.

Mr. Burrell favoured us with a short but very interesting entertainment on Wednesday, February 28th.

The football, presented each year by Mr. Bunting, was awarded to Moore.

Congratulations to Brenda Jones on obtaining her Teacher's Certificate.

We are pleased to record the success of Elsie Finnemore in obtaining her B.Sc. degree at University College, Aberystwyth.

Edith Gander has been elected head of her year at Birmingham University.

#### MARRIAGE.

On April 19, 1923, at the Roman Catholic Church, Alcester, the marriage of Hubert T. Hemming and Phyllis Alison (scholar 1913-1917) was celebrated.

#### DEATH.

We regret to announce the death at Winnipeg on April 29th of Elizabeth T. Munro (née Tipping), aged 21. She was one of the first pupils in the School, and remained with us till 1917.

#### A GHOST STORY.

One summer I was staying at my grandfather's house in Ireland, and nearly every day I went for a long walk though the country.

It happened one afternoon that I set out to visit an old castle about three miles away. The journey led over peat-bogs and quagmires.

The castle stood at the foot of a hill, and was surrounded by a small thicket. The walls were overgrown with ivy, while birds flew in and out of the broken windows. I entered, though half believing that it held something mysterious. The walls were bare and the cold stone floor had a carpet of dust, which yielded to the foot. Cobwebs stretched across each corner. All was dark and silent in this dreary old castle. The only audible sound was the moaning of the wind round its corners.

At one end was a closed door which might possibly lead upstairs. I pushed, and it opened, and a flight of rickety stairs revealed itself. I put my foot on the bottom step, when from somewhere underneath came a moan, followed by a blood-curdling shriek. This made my hair stand on end, but I resolved to go up. I carried a candle in one hand, it was so dark, and

groped my way up. I had nearly reached the top, when something hit me hard in the face, and made me start so as to drop my candle. With trembling fingers I groped around for it, and after many futile efforts, while I heard my heart thump in the darkness, I managed to relight it. This time I reached the top. It was lighter up here, but the place was alive with bats, while an owl dashed by my head, shrieking. Across this room was an open door which led down another flight of stairs. I carefully descended, and as soon as I had got from the light, a draught of cold air whistled down the stairs, and could be heard moaning farther down. Suddenly an awful shriek came from over my head, my candle fell, and I rushed down into darkness and stopped. All was silent, when the rattling of a chain, and the pat, pat, of some creature came up from below. This, I really believe, lifted my hat on my head. I thought the place must be haunted, so I resolved to get out as quickly as I could. I went onwards and came to a floor, and saw light coming from an open window. I at once made for this, but in doing so fell over a large white object. Suddenly the chain clanked and a sound like a roar echoed through the whole castle. I jumped at the window, leaped out, and ran home. For three nights I dreamt about my hideous adventure, but on the third, what should I hear, but that an old sheep had strayed into the castle, with a chain on her leg!

J.F.

## NIGHT.

The night hath spread her wings around,  
 The birds have gone to sleep;  
 Across the meadow there, the ground  
 Is dotted with white sheep.  
 The pimpernel has closed its eye  
 The air is soft and still,  
 The bats now flit across the sky  
 And dance above the hill.  
 The nightingale begins to sing  
 Some rich melodious song;  
 The trees their ghostly shadows fling  
 The moonlit turf along.  
 The owls have left their leafy bowers  
 And screech unto the night;  
 The field-mice run among the flowers  
 To hide from their sharp sight.  
 The night hath spread her wings around  
 The moon is in the sky,  
 And silently upon the ground,  
 The white sheep sleeping lie.

I.S.

## MY FAVOURITE DISH.

My favourite dish? Certainly, for one who is by no means an epicure, it is a question entailing deep cogitation. However, after half-an-hour's uninterrupted thought, I have come to a very satisfactory conclusion.

Ah! What an enjoyable thirty minutes I spent, feasting sumptuously on the most palatable delicacies, recalling the different flavours of each one, speedily rejecting some, but over others lingering with fond indecision. Oh! how my mouth watered as I conjured up the glories of salmon, turkey, and veal and ham pie. Five minutes passed ere I could abandon roast chicken, and it almost broke my heart to admit the superiority of the savours of hare, to the tenderness of lamb.

At length—it was after a bitter and prolonged struggle that pork, most appetising of dishes, retreated before the incomparable, ineffable flavour of duck and green peas. Surely, ambrosia can be but a divine rendering of that glorious combination. My imagination can soar to no greater a delicacy. Even the *chefs* of Paris, with their most savoury concoctions of frogs, could never excel duck and green peas. Only recall the sweet tenderness of the duck, blending with the tender sweetness of the peas! Above all, accompany the peerless twain with new potatoes. Why! the regal bird would rise on its skewers and retire majestically to the safe if placed on the table with a dish of base, flowery, last year's vegetables.

What delicious excitement is there when duck and green peas is announced to be shortly appearing at dinner. I confess that I begin to feel the pangs of hunger days before the event, and when the morning at last arrives it is strange to observe what small breakfasts are eaten, while lunch is entirely out of the question.

However, this is too depressing a subject to continue, for, ah! cruel fate! is there not only beef, horrid, tough, uninteresting beef for dinner? Then fare thee well, thou transcendent dish, and I trust it will not be long before I partake of thy peerless savours. For, even now, at the bottom of the garden, I see a row of delicate green emerging from the soil; and, behold! a host of tiny, yellow, fluffy, twittering things waddle to the orchard, happily unconscious of my designing eye.

M. S.

## OUR VISIT TO STRATFORD.

The day dawned sunny, bright and clear,  
 And soon dispelled was doubt and fear,  
 For storm or rain, with steady drip,  
 Had surely spoiled our promised trip.  
 Sedately cycling, two and two,  
 Just as we had been told to do,  
 We soon were on the Stratford Road,  
 And hearts beat high and faces glowed.  
 Our eager pace flagged at Red Hill,  
 Though we lacked breath, we lacked not will.  
 When clocks at noon had struck the hour  
 We joined the queue beneath the tower  
 Before the gallery door.  
 A fat old dame stood next to us,  
 And if we moved she made a fuss,  
 —Our sole response, a sly grimace—  
 The door swung back. Now for a race!  
 Up the long gallery steps we tore,  
 As if we'd ne'er been in before.  
 Then in our seats, scarce knowing how  
 We found ourselves at last, and now  
 With burning cheek and beating heart  
 We waited till the play should start.  
 At last the curtain rising slow  
 Revealed three witches murmuring low,  
 And wrapt in terror and delight  
 We watched all awestruck; and with fright  
 We listened to the piercing yell  
 Of murdered nobles, when they fell.  
 At last Macbeth, in stubborn fight  
 Yielded to Macduff's greater might,  
 And fell to rise no more.  
 The play was done. We went for tea,  
 Then much refreshed, in noisy glee,  
 We set out on the homeward way.  
 With cunning ruse, two maidens gay,  
 Behind a hedge themselves did hide,  
 And watch'd the unconscious stragglers ride  
 Straight past them, nor perceive the trick.  
 How could they guess a thorn would prick  
 And pierce the teacher's inner tyre?  
 Our culprits wished they had been slyer  
 When from Red Hill they had to walk,  
 And while the tedious hours with talk.  
 How did we foremost riders smile!  
 We knew they must trudge mile on mile,  
 While homeward we rode merrily,  
 With laughter gay and careless glee,  
 Our great excursion o'er.

E.L. &amp; B.W.

## OLLA PODRIDA.

"Listeners-in" will no doubt be pleased to hear that Marconi has reached a ripe old age, for according to M. H., he was born in the reign of George the Third.

"Union is strength." This maxim, we suppose, affords an explanation of the sight of two prefects parading the corridor hand-in-hand.

Once again does V.a. distinguish itself in Geography. We learn that "Dublin is the capital of Wales" and that "lines of longitude get nearer and near apart as they approach the poles."

We are inclined to agree with D. B. that "Latin is as dry as ditchwater."

In which Form is our champion chatterbox to be found? Rumour hath it that IV a and IV b are eager to submit competitors.

We regret that we can furnish no news of Va's tadpoles, as no bulletin has been issued of late.

M. L informs us that *Dum spiro spero* means *While I hope I perspire*. Surely a heat wave of emotion!

Are we justified in conjecturing that V b contemplate giving us expert weather forecasts? Their regular (!) observations of thermometric and barometric readings certainly give grounds for this belief.

Does A. K. now daily consult the calendar before coming to school? We have noticed that she has not recently forgotten the day of the week.

"The products of Palestine are chiefly grapes, olives, figs, pomegranates, lions, bears, wolves and jackals," says our V a authority.

We have heard the boys' cloak-room occasionally described as a "bear-garden." Might we suggest that "mole-garden" would be a more fitting title?



Can we rightly believe that motor-cars were unknown to the Romans, when we are told that the accusative case of '*hic*' is '*hunc, hanc, hunc*'?

"In *L'Allegro*," says M. H., the man is a nymph, while in *Il Penseroso* he is a nun."

#### SPORTS DAY, 1923.

Thursday, June 7th, dawned bright and cheerful for the occasion of the School Sports. The weather always seems to favour us for the holding of this eagerly-anticipated gathering. On this occasion the weather fine, and a large number of friends arrived to witness the field sports, and to examine the exhibition of the girls' handiwork inside the building. The field was as usual, thanks to Mr. Hall and the kind friends who lent decorations gaily bedecked with flags and streamers. The sports events were run off with great promptness, and many a close contest roused the enthusiasm of the spectators. The Obstacle Race and the High Jump were again two of the most popular events.

Inside the building many persons contributed towards tastefully organising and arranging the exhibits. The work of both boys and girls was throughout of a high standard. S. S.'s hydro-plane ranks as one of the finest home-made toys which has been exhibited for some years.

After the Sports the usual gathering took place on the girls' playground, and Mrs. W. A. Spencer kindly attended to present the cup, shields, and medals to the winners. Heartly congratulations are to be extended to F. Bunting upon winning the cup for the second year in succession. His grand total of points was the same as last year, namely, 107. The Jackals, by some splendid work in the Sports, thoroughly earned the right to hold the sports shield till next year. The Brownie Girls won the Arts and Crafts Shield for their side by excellent work. The Tomtits, although they did not succeed in winning one of the shields, proved that, in a year or two, they will be dangerous contestants for both.

Votes of thanks to Mrs. Spencer, the judges of the Sports, and to Mr. Wells and the staff, brought the actual proceedings to a close, and so another Sports Day passed into School history. Appended are the chief results.

The following girls were awarded medals for their work:—

SILVER MEDALS.—Seniors: J. Wells, 148 points;

B. Clarke, 126; M. Hemming, 119; M. Thomas, 107; D. Balmforth, 105. Juniors: B. Wells, 189 points; E. Lane, 93.

BRONZE MEDALS.—Seniors: B. Thomas, 76 points; M. Sisam, 62; G. Bishop, 52; D. Sisam, 44. Juniors: Marjorie Thomas, 72 points; M. Lane, 47; Gibbs, 47; C. Chapman, 45; M. Bomford, 43; M. Sheppard, 40.

The contest for the Arts and Crafts Shield resulted as follows:—

1.—Brownies, 964 points (of which the boys made 163).

2.—Tomtits, 825 points (of which the boys made 60).

3.—Jackals, 693 points (boys 164).

The results of the field sports were as follows:

#### OVER 14.

Quarter-Mile.—1, Bunting, 2, Burdett; 3, Winnett.

100 Yards.—1, Shrimpton; 2, Bunting, 3, Mander.

Half-Mile.—1, Burdett; 2, Fancote; 3, Anker.

Slow Bicycle Race.—1, Edkins; 2, Staff.

Crab Walk.—1, Anker; 2, Bunting.

200 Yards.—1, Moore; 2, Bunting; 3, Burdett.

Hurdle Race.—1, Bunting; 2, Mander; 3, Fennemore.

Obstacle Race.—1, Bunting; 2, Edkins.

Consolation Race.—1, Rook II.; 2, Shrimpton.

High Jump.—1, Bunting; 2, Mander; 3, Fancote.

Throwing Cricket Ball.—1, Bunting; 2, Mander; 3, Earp.

Cross-Country Race (five miles).—1, Mander; 2, Shrimpton; 3, Burdett; 4, Hall.

Long Jump.—1, Bunting; 2, Mander; 3, Fennemore.

One Mile.—1, Bunting; 2, Perkins; 3, Burdett; 4, Shrimpton.

#### 12—14.

100 Yards.—1, Holder I.; 2, Guillaume; 3, Scriven.

220 Yards.—1, Guillaume; 2, Hodgkinson, 3, Bailey.

Crab Walk.—1, Andrews; 2, Holder I.

Half-Mile.—1, Bird; 2, Scriven; 3, Bailey.

Obstacle Race.—1, Sisam; 2, Wheeler.

Hurdle Race.—1, Hodgkinson; 2, Corbett II.

High Jump.—1, Sisam; 2, Hodgkinson.

Consolation Race.—1, Barnett; 2, Jones.

Slow Bicycle Race.—1, Hodgkinson; 2, Harris.

Throwing Cricket Ball.—1, Corbett II.; 2, Harwood; 3, Sisam.

Cross-Country Race.—1, Scriven; 2, Andrews;

3, Harwood; 4, Griffen II.

Long Jump.—1, Sisam; 2, Scriven; 3, Guillaume.

#### UNDER 12.

Egg and Spoon.—1, Alexander; 2, Harwood.

100 Yards.—1, Baylis III.; 2, Baylis IV.

Obstacle Race.—1, Smith II.; 2, Summers.

Sack Race.—1, Summers; 2, Baylis IV.

#### GIRLS' RACES (UNDER 12).

100 Yards.—1, E. Holder; 2, R. Antrobus.

Egg and Spoon.—1, H. Spencer; 2, M. Taylor.

Relay Race.—1, Jackals; 2, Tomtits; 3, Brownies.

Potato Race.—1, E. Holder; 2, R. Antrobus.

Flower Pot Race.—1, E. Holder; 2, D. Sparrow.

#### OTHER EVENTS. (BOYS TEAMS.)

Tug-of-War.—Jackals beat Brownies.

Relay Race.—1, Jackals; 2, Tomtits; 3, Brownies.

The following boys gained medals for their work in the Sports:—

SILVER.—Mander, Bunting, Shrimpton, Burdett, Bird, Scriven, Sisam.

BRONZE.—Perkins, Hodgkinson, Moore, Fancote, Corbett II., Andrews, Baylis II., Guillaume, Holder I.

The games and competitions for the sports shield resulted as follows:—

1.—Jackals, with 501 points.

2.—Brownies, 367 points.

3.—Tomtits, 285 points.

E. H. M.

#### MUSICAL SOCIETY.

Broadly speaking, the activities of the Musical Society culminate in six or seven meetings during the Autumn and Spring terms, at which papers are read or recitals given by members of the society and musicians amateur and professional.

To provide well prepared programs for these evenings, it has been found necessary to hold the business meeting during the summer term for the election of the committee. It is then possible to begin the Autumn session almost immediately after our return from the summer holidays. Last year the first meeting, on September 20th, took the form of a vocal recital by Miss Lilian Green (Soprano) and her pupil, Miss Thornton (Contralto) from Birmingham. The songs were with two exceptions by English composers, from Elizabethan to the very latest 'Georgian' times, and they were all beautifully sung. On November 13th, the program was mainly in the hands of members and was de-

signed to illustrate by readings, instrumental and vocal items, the work of Mozart. Miss Bowen very kindly came to give songs from the operas which would otherwise have been beyond our range.

We owe to Miss Green's kind offices one of the greatest privileges the Society has ever enjoyed in the visit of the Nafford (Vocal) Quartette on November 27th. This Quartette recently distinguished itself at the Midland Festival held in Birmingham, and the Elizabethan Music Festival in London. I think those present will always remember the items from Sullivan—"Brightly dawns our wedding day" and "Strange Adventure," also "Meg Merrilies" and the delightful "Little Old Man." All the songs, with the exception of those by Sullivan, were sung unaccompanied. Mr. Rowe and Mr. Parker kindly came over from Bidford to complete the program and relieve the singers by interludes of instrumental music. We hope that another generation of members will enjoy the same privilege, as we hear on good authority that the Quartette enjoyed their visit and have promised to repeat it.

The next meeting had for its object the enlistment of as many members as possible as actual contributors to the program. It was so interesting that we hope to try the experiment again in spite of the criticisms levelled at our ingenuous efforts by non-contributing members.

On March 8th, Miss Jones read an interesting paper on the life and works of Handel, with illustrations given by Mr. Earp, Miss Taylor and other members of the Society. This concluded the session as Mr. Tomlinson, of Rossall School, was unfortunately obliged at the last moment to cancel his promised Beethoven recital. We hope that his visit is only postponed.

The committee would like to take this opportunity of thanking the people and very especially those who came from a distance who helped to make our evenings a success.

B.C

#### THE POSTAGE STAMP CLUB

At the beginning of the spring term Mr. Druller organised a club for members of the Upper School interested in collecting postage stamps. The objects of the club are to afford facilities to members for the exchange of duplicates, to give opportunities for a closer study and better understanding of the stamps they obtain, and to encourage a more systematic arrangement of collections. The membership of the club is at



present about thirty, and the meetings, which are held at 4 p.m. each Thursday in the Art Room, have been well attended.

Each meeting opens with a short talk on some subject of interest in connection with stamps, such as perforation, overprints and surcharges, watermark, a country's history as illustrated in its stamps. Members have been encouraged to be satisfied with nothing but good copies of their stamps, and to be always on the look out for the "perfect specimen."

In connection with this, a competition was arranged at the end of last term. Members were asked to mount copies of each value of the present Georgian issue of British stamps. In adjudging the entries attention was paid to the condition of the specimens, the lightness of the postmark, and the method of mounting. There were eighteen competitors, all of whose sheets of stamps were deserving of praise. The results of the competition were as follows:—1, Hodgkinson; 2, Gibbs; 3, B. Thomas; 4, Hemming. All the entries were exhibited in the Art Room on the last Thursday of term. It was interesting to note the comparative rareness of the 7d., 8d., and 10d. stamps.

Another competition of a similar character has been arranged for the end of the present term. On this occasion the competitors are allowed to choose their country, and to submit for display one particular issue of that country. It is hoped that there will be a large entry of stamps.

A great part of each meeting is devoted to the exchange of duplicates, and every member has found the opportunity to add considerably to his or her collection. Any boy or girl, whether a collector or not, in classes above IIIa. is cordially invited to attend our meetings. The secretary, Partridge I., will willingly give information in connection with the Club.

A. P.

#### SCOUT NEWS.

On Saturday, June 2nd, the Scouts had an enjoyable excursion to Malvern. A start was made from School at 8 o'clock in the morning and a party of 54 Scouts thoroughly enjoyed the rapid journey by charabanc through the keen morning air. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander and Mr. Lester were welcome members of the party. When the Roman Camps were reached the hills were found bathed in mist, and it was thought advisable to keep the Scouts together lest any of them should be lost in the mist! A

halt was accordingly called after we had climbed up the hills for some distance and after finding a suitable spot on the leeward side of the range an early lunch was taken. By the time haversacks had been emptied the sun was already dispersing the mist and a thoroughly enjoyable game of "attack and defence" took place, which, if somewhat arduous, nevertheless prepared one for the hill-climbing which was to follow.

After a short rest Mr. Walker led an excursion to a notable landmark situated high up among the hills. This proved on closer examination to be a monument erected to the members of a well-known family in the district who had fought in the Napoleonic Wars. After journeying back to the point where we had left our baggage, a distance, by the way, which might have been five miles, to judge by certain expressions heard among the Scouts, an attack was made on the celebrated Roman camps.

The site of these famous fortifications was almost impregnable to the advances of some of the smaller members of the party, but one and all rushed up the hills with an enthusiasm which could scarcely have been damped if a Roman legion had been found encamped on the summit. Arrived at the top the prospect well repaid the climb, for the morning mist no longer obscured the view. After a short rest a tennis ball was produced by Mr. Walker, and an exciting game of "rounders" took place on the slope of the hill. The game was, to say the least, slightly tiring in the hot sun, and among the majority of the party it produced an immediate recourse to the "pop-shop." The energy of the Scouts knew no limits however, and one vied with another in the speed with which the hills were scaled.

It was a thoroughly exhausted and happy band of scouts which took tea in Great Malvern in the evening, but for certain Scouts arduous exertion was not yet over. A young lady had fallen and badly injured herself almost at the top of the Worcester Beacon, and by summoning help from the village and assisting to carry her down the hill, some of the Scouts certainly did a very real "good turn."

Alcester was reached about 7-30 in the evening, and the cheerful and weary Scouts dispersed to their homes, feeling greatly indebted to their Scoutmaster for giving them such an enjoyable outing.

The Scout funds are in a flourishing condition, and the troop now includes most of the boys in the school. Many proficiency badges have been won

during the past term, and much useful and interesting work is likely to be accomplished before the end of the year.

E.H.M.

#### DEBATING SOCIETY.

No Debating Society meetings were held in the autumn term of 1922, but the usual number of meetings took place in the spring term of this year. Bowen having left, it was necessary to elect a new member of the committee. At the meeting held on February 13th, Lester was unanimously elected secretary. The proposition that B. Clarke should be elected a member of the committee was also carried unanimously. This meeting commenced at 3.30 p.m., and was held in the hall, innovations both of which were satisfactory and are likely to be continued.

At this meeting M. Thomas proposed that "School punishments be abolished." E. Wilesmith seconded this, and B. Clarke opposed. Most of those present being very interested in the subject, a most interesting debate took place, and, on the proposition being put to the meeting, it was defeated by a majority of nine. At the close of the meeting the Secretary asked for suggestions of subjects for debate, and several were submitted.

The next meeting was held on March 20th. B. Wells proposed that "Sunday game are detrimental to the public welfare, and therefore should not be allowed." Chapman seconded the motion, and Bunting led the opposition. After an interesting debate, in which the question was discussed from many points of view, the proposition was put to the vote, and was defeated by a majority of nine.

The secretary or any committee members will willingly receive suggestions for subjects for debate.

H. T. L.

#### TO THE EDITOR OF THE "RECORD."

SIR,—As a member of the Debating Society, I should like to draw attention to the fact that the majority of the younger members of that Society seem to expect the committee and the Sixth Form to furnish all the speakers at the meetings of the Society. I think that I express the feelings of the committee in saying that we want the younger members to speak for themselves. It is not that we are unwilling to take part in the meetings, but we have spoken at the earlier meetings of the Society, and we do not want to take

the lead always. The other members will have to carry on when we have left. Why do they not prepare themselves? We do not complain of the attendance at the meetings. We do complain of the silent attendance.

A COMMITTEE MEMBER.

#### FOOTBALL.

At the commencement of the season Bunting was elected captain, Hall vice-captain, and Gothard secretary. We had a much more successful season than was at first expected, as many of the boys had left. We commenced the season well by defeating Redditch S.S. (6—0) away and Evesham (4—1) at home; but Evesham retaliated by beating us (3—0) away. We then defeated Studley St. Mary's (6—2) at home. The next match we had a crushing defeat by Offenham Swifts (13—3) at home. However, we stoned for this defeat by beating Redditch S.S. (11—1) at home, Sisam being the principal scorer, having five goals to his credit. This was a good finish to the winter term.

We commenced the spring term by defeating Studley St. Mary's (3—1) away. Then we had a spell of bad luck, losing to Evesham (2—1) at home and (3—0) away, and to Redditch S.S. (4—1) away.

We finished the season in fine style, defeating Bromsgrove (3—2) at home. Bromsgrove are a team that we had not had the pleasure of meeting previously, and this match proved by far the best of the season, all the boys playing remarkably well.

The following are the goal scorers for the season:—Sisam 11, Perkins (9), Mander (8), Hall (4), Winnett (3), Bunting (2).

Colours were awarded to Staff, Baylis, Gothard, Shrimpton, Perkins, and Moore.

The boys who have appeared in the team are Bunting (captain), Hall, Baylis, Gothard, Clark, Formston, Staff, Mander, Sisam, Perkins, Moore, Shrimpton, Winnett, Hemming, Harwood, Harris, Jeffcoat I., Edkins, and Burdett.

F. B.  
S. G.

#### HOCKEY.

We have this season been favoured with much better weather, and, as a consequence, only one of our matches has been scratched, namely, that fixed to take place on February 24th against Studley College. Our results have been most

satisfactory. On October 14th we played Studley Ladies and won by 6 goals to 3. We visited Evesham on November 4th and Redditch on December 2nd; both times we were successful, the scores being 3—0 and 3—1. We concluded the autumn term by a successful match against the old scholars, winning 2—1. At the commencement of the spring term the Evesham team visited us, and we were again victorious. We visited Redditch on March 3rd, and in spite of the drawbacks of a very muddy and uneven field, we won by 4 goals to nil.

The hockey season concluded by a most enjoyable match against the old scholars, which resulted in a draw 2—2.

The hockey stick, given by Mrs. Wells, to the girl who showed most improvement during the season was awarded to K. Bomford.

The following have played in the team this season:—E. Clark, D. Swainston, N. Ainge, M. Sisam, K. Bomford, B. Thomas, E. Wilesmith, M. Thomas, M. Hemming, P. Edkins, J. Wells, K. Wilesmith, M. Bomford, and B. Wells.

Colours have been awarded to Mr. Sisam, J. Wells, K. Bomford, N. Ainge, M. Thomas, and B. Thomas.

W. M. S.

#### TENNIS.

The Summer term has brought the tennis season round again and the usual enthusiasm for the game has been displayed. We have not been favoured by ideal tennis weather, for although we have not been hindered by much rain, there has been too little sunshine and too much wind to be pleasant. The number of challenges has been as great as ever and several promising players have appeared in the lower school. The Gold Medal challenges have been played off earlier than usual this year. A new rule has also been made and now no girl under fourteen is allowed to compete. This year there were eleven entries. M. Thomas, M. Sisam, B. Thomas and J. Wells were left in for the semi-final. The two matches were played off on Wednesday, June 20th, when M. Thomas beat J. Wells 6-2, 6-1, and M. Sisam beat B. Thomas 7-5, 6-2. The final was played on the following Friday. It proved a most interesting match to watch, as there were some interesting rallies. In the end Meryl Thomas beat her opponent 6-2, 6-3, thus winning the Gold Medal. I am sure the whole school heartily congratulate her on her success.

We are looking forward to several matches during

the latter half of the term. On July 4th, the Sixth are to play V a. V b. are to play the Sixth on July 10th. A match against the old scholars has been arranged for July 25th. The Girls' Tennis Tournament is to be held on July 14th, on which occasion all girls in III b. and upwards will be present. We are all hoping that the day will be fine so that the Tournament may be as successful as it always has been in the past.

J.W.

#### CRICKET.

Although a start was delayed for the first week or so of term by the unfavourable weather, cricket has been for some time in full swing, and we are already beginning to talk about the end of a season which is all too short. Each day between the hours of one and two there has been net practice, in addition to the games of three separate "sets" on the School field; and, even if we have not had much sunshine, we have generally succeeded in keeping warm through strenuous games.

The fixture-list of Saturday matches has been a full one, and two Wednesday afternoon games have also been arranged this year. Up to the present, eight matches have been played by the School team; of these we have won 5, drawn 1 and lost 2.

The boys who have represented the School this term are; Bunting (capt.), Mander, Gothard, Staff, Baylis i, Shrimpton, Hemming, Earp, Partridge i, Perkins, Moore and Jeffcoate i. The greater part of the bowling has been undertaken by Bunting and Staff, assisted by Mander.

Details of the matches already played are as follows:—May 19th, v. Redditch S. S. (away), A.G.S 65 (Mander 17), Redditch S. S. 22.

May 26th, v. Temple Grafton (home), A.G.S. 92 (Mr. Wells 23, Bunting 17), Temple Grafton 35.

June 6th, v. Stratford G.S. (home), A.G.S. 101 (Mander 42, Bunting 32), Stratford G.S. 24 for 8.

June 9th v. Evesham P.H.G.S. (home), A.G.S 120 (Bunting 62), Evesham P.H.G.S. 28.

June 16th, v. Temple Grafton (away), A.G.S. 85, Temple Grafton 106.

June 23rd, v. Redditch S. S. (home), A.G.S. 35. Redditch S.S. 65.

June 27th v. Evesham P.H.G.S. (away), A.G.S. 58 (Staff 17, Perkins 17), Evesham P.H.G.S. 42 (Staff 8 wickets for 5 runs).

June 30th, v. Stratford G.S. (away), A.G.S. 114 (Mander 83), Stratford G.S. 63.

### For the Juniors.

#### BESSIE'S VISIT TO FAIRYLAND.

"I wish I could go to Fairyland" said Bessie, after hearing a tale of a Fairy Queen and her fairies. "I could wear a lovely dress all made of rose petals, and always have what I wanted." "Do you really wish to visit Fairyland?" said a voice. Bessie looked round; her mother had gone from the room. Where could the voice have come from? She looked back into the fireplace, thinking. She must be dreaming, but she was not, for the voice said again, "Can't you see me, Bessie?" She looked into the flowers, and there saw a tiny little man. "Did you say you wanted to go to Fairyland?" "Yes," said Bessie. "Then you are just what we want." He waved his wand and she found herself in a lovely dress all made of rose petals. When she looked at the little man, she found they were now both the same size. "Hold my hand, and we will go to Fairyland," he said. On and on they went, till at last they got there, and he took her into a lovely room, all made of pearls and rubies. Then he said, "Come and see the Fairy Queen," and he took her into a larger room, where the walls glittered with diamonds and emeralds, and the ceiling was made of gold, and there were gold chairs, set with pearls. On a very high throne of gold, sat the Fairy Queen. She was dressed in moonbeams, and wore a crown of pearls, and her hair was long and golden. "I have brought you the person you wished," said the little elf. "Well, little girl, would you like to come to the Fairy Ball?" said the Fairy Queen. "I would love to," Bessie replied. She danced with the Fairy Prince and had fairy wine and fruit for supper. Then the Queen said she must go home; so she went to the little elf and asked him to take her home. "Very well, shut your eyes and count three." Bessie did so, and when she opened them again, she was back home on the hearth-rug, in front of the fire.

MOLLY INNS (age 9).

#### LUCY'S DREAM.

There was once a little girl called Lucy. She walked down the garden one fine afternoon and sat down on the grass, under a tree, and closed her eyes. She heard a tinkling sound, and when she opened her eyes, she saw fairies dancing. There were four musicians. One was playing a trumpet with a nasturtium, one ringing a harebell, one play-

ing a tiny flute on a water-reed, and one conducting. When the fairies stopped dancing, they sat down to a toadstool, the Fairy Queen in the middle of them. They all sat on little toadstools. There were plates made of primrose blossoms, and buttercups to drink from. On a rose-petal, there was honey. There was a large strawberry floating in raspberry juice, and lovely things to eat.

Just as Lucy was enjoying this a tiny gnome saw her and ran to tell the Fairy Queen and then they all vanished.

Then Lucy found that she had been asleep and ran in to tea with nurse.

ROSEMARY ANTROBUS (age 9).

#### THE FAIRIES' GIFT.

It was Joyce's birthday, and what she wanted most was a lovely canoe of her very own. By the house where she lived, there was a lake with a real island. So when her mother showed her a large parcel, she was very excited. But, to her great disappointment, the present was not a canoe, but a toy rocking-boat. Poor Joyce tried not to show her feelings. But when she went to bed that night, she couldn't help crying.

In the morning she went down to the lake, and fed the swans. Then she went to the boathouse, unlocked it, and launched the small yacht. She set up the sails and the boat glided across the lake to the island. Then she got out, tied it up, and took a walk across the island. Suddenly, something on the water attracted her attention. Running down to the water's edge, she saw that it was a little white canoe, painted blue inside. On it was painted the name "Minnehaha." Inside, tied to the seat, was a label bearing the words, "To Joyce, with the Fairy Queen's love."

She was excited and stepping into it, paddled back to the yacht. Then she towed the canoe back to the bank, tied both boats up, ran up to the house, and told her mother.

That night, when she was in bed, a fairy came and told her that it was because she had not shown her disappointment that the fairies had sent her the present. And Joyce had many jolly picnics on the island.

MARY TAYLOR (age 9).